



For economic development professionals, success starts with relevant knowledge, actionable intelligence and up-to-date skills. Amid today's fast-changing economy and business landscape, you can ensure your ongoing competitiveness by becoming an active member of North Carolina's leading statewide association for economic developers and their allies.

## **ASSOCIATION OVERVIEW**

With over 700 members, **NCEDA serves as *the* voice for North Carolina's economic development community – providing professional development, networking opportunities and advocacy to secure the state's economic future.** It is the leading association for professional economic developers and their allies and partners in North Carolina. For over 50 years, NCEDA has led efforts to promote North Carolina as an ideal destination for new businesses, jobs and investment. NCEDA promotes professionalism and results in economic development in many ways:

- Provides a broad range of learning, networking and leadership opportunities
- Advocates for effective economic development-related laws, policies and strategies through policy action by the legislative and executive branches
- Creates opportunities for collaboration among economic developers at the state, regional and local levels, and their public and private allies and partners
- Enhances public understanding and support for economic development programs, strategies and organizations
- Facilitates networking and mentoring opportunities that grow intellectual capital and ensure the long-term vibrancy of North Carolina's economic development community

NCEDA members include local, regional and state economic development professionals and their public partners and private allies – educators, public service providers, architects, real estate professionals, utility representatives, leaders in the financial industry and others who share the common vision of securing economic opportunities for every North Carolina community.

## MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

### Stay Informed

NCEDA publications and resources keep members informed and engaged:

- [Developments](#) -- NCEDA's e-newsletter covers trends in the profession, legislative issues, career opportunities and important news from around the state.
- [www.nceda.org](http://www.nceda.org) -- NCEDA's website provides information and links to members, resources and professional development opportunities.
- [NCEDA Membership Directory](#) -- This searchable listing of economic development professionals and allies provides members with access to a vital resource: each other.

### Examine Issues and Exchange Ideas

NCEDA conferences and events promote [professional development and networking](#):

- Three annual conferences offer workshops, panel discussions and presentations on critical issues developers face.
- Professional development seminars provide intensive sessions on specific topics.
- Networking lunches offer perspective on critical issues and the opportunity to engage business and government leaders.
- The Emerging Executives Initiative engages members newer to the North Carolina economic development community with customized programming and community service opportunities.

### Learn and Earn

NCEDA scholarships, awarded annually, support the career development of outstanding practitioners:

- [Dan Stewart Scholarship](#) provides tuition for the basic economic development course at UNC Chapel Hill, a must-attend program for newcomers to the field.
- [Jack Ervin Scholarship](#) provides tuition to the Economic Development Institute (EDI), the premier continuing education program for economic development professionals.
- [Gov. James E. Holshouser Professional Development Scholarship](#) provides general support toward the cost of EDI.

### Make Connections

NCEDA offers diverse and powerful networking opportunities – receptions, informal breakfast gatherings, luncheons and recreational outings.

### Ensure Effective Public Policy

Make your voice heard, along with those of economic developers statewide, in shaping [legislative action](#) and public policies that sharpen North Carolina's global competitive edge.

### Join Today!

\$320 – new membership (\$295 membership plus \$25 application fee)

\$295 – membership renewals

[www.nceda.org](http://www.nceda.org)

Contact Liz Dobbins-Smith (888.246.2332 / [liz@nceda.org](mailto:liz@nceda.org)) with any questions!